Annual Report of the West Virginia Nonpoint Source Program FY 2001

West Virginia Soil Conservation Agency

DEP WEST VIRGINIA
Division of Environmental Protection

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE WEST VIRGINIA
NON-POINT SOURCE PROGRAM
FY 2001

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE NON-POINT SOURCE PROGRAM OF THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FY 2001

EXECTUTIVE SUMMARY

Grant Title: West Virginia Division of Environmental Protection Office of Water Resources Nonpoint Source Program, Administration and Coordination

Date: October 1, 2000 to September 30, 2001

Funding: Federal Funds - $384,568
State Funds – $256,379

The West Virginia Division of Environmental Protection Office of Water Resources (OWR) Non Point Source Program (NPSP) focused on providing guidance and oversight to non-point source activities by coordinating with the category agencies during FY 2001. In January 2001 EPA approved the NPS Management Plan. The Plan will act as a guide for the direction of the program into the near future. The NPSP has focused much of its efforts on the priority watersheds selected by the Watershed Management Framework (WMF) as proscribed in the NPS Management Plan. The Coordinator of the WMF has left her position and a new coordinator has yet to be named. However, NPSP personnel from all categories have continued on with the process.

Even before this summer's devastating floods in the southern part of the state, the NPSP was involved in the Flood Protection Plan Task Force. This effort seeks to develop a plan to reduce the State's vulnerability to catastrophic floods. The NPSP maintains an active role in many organizations and efforts to reduce nonpoint source pollution to restore watersheds to water quality standards. Overall, the NPS Program in all categories was successful in FY 2001 by accomplishing the vast majority of milestones set forth in the FY 2001 Grant.

INTRODUCTION

The West Virginia Division of Environmental Protection Office of Water Resources (OWR) is the designated lead agency in the state for the Non-point Source Program (Section 319) (NPSP). As such it is responsible for the administration of the Non-point Source Program. A significant amount of administrative and coordination effort was required to effectively run the NPSP during FY 2001. The Management Program components, while primarily oriented toward implementation by the cooperating agencies, must be managed through the OWR NPSP staff to ensure a consistent statewide effort. The Program must provide the cooperating agencies guidance and support in concentrating their implementation efforts in the identified priority watersheds. It is the lead agency's responsibility to maintain and update the NPS Assessment Report, Management Program Plan and Grants Reporting and Tracking System (GRTS). It is also the lead agency's responsibility to promote and oversee the NPS Program statewide and intrastate. This is accomplished by utilizing information/education, technical assistance, financial assistance, demonstration projects, public participation, monitoring, and regulatory enforcement.

ACTIVITIES

As the lead agency the OWR NPSP has had the responsibility of producing an updated NPS Management Plan. That plan was completed in December 2000 after many revisions. It was submitted in early January 2001 and approved by EPA in early February.

In FY 2001 all category work-plans were incorporated into revised grants and quarterly status reports were reviewed to ensure compliance with guidelines and milestones. The Grants Reporting Tracking System (GRTS) database was down for part of the year as it was shifted to a web-based system. The NPSP Coordinator has maintained the GRTS database for the program and has completed all required entries for FY 01. FY 01 Incremental Grants have not been approved as of yet and a backlog of uncompleted fields from previous years has just recently been received. The new GRTS

system is slower and more cumbersome than the old system and errors have been more difficult to correct. This resulted in unintended duplication of project records and a $100,000 error in the budget amount recorded. This had to be corrected by EPA and took several months to fix.

Enforcement

The NPSP has coordinated enforcement and compliance support with category management agencies. This is accomplished through the review of Sediment Control Plans (SCPs), actions resulting from citizen complaints and providing technical manuals and support for the educational workshops for farmers, developers and loggers. The OWR NPSP has provided technical support and oversight for Section 401 Certification for road construction and hydromodification projects. The OWR NPS Program Manager reviews and recommends BMPs for instream and wetlands dredge and fill activities. Coordination with the Division of Natural Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife and Corps or Engineers assures proper technical assistance to insure water quality protection. The Program has been involved in efforts to prevent degradation of water quality. These anti-degradation efforts included: being on the committee for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), consulting with the Department of Highways on road construction and maintenance issues, being on committees of NPS Coordinators with the Ohio River Sanitation Commission (ORSANCO), Ohio River Basin Commission, Interstate Commission on the Potomac River and on the Synfuels Risk Assessment Committee to provide guidelines for protecting water quality from barges carrying synfuels.

The NPSP supports water quality standards enforcement for nonpoint sources, animal feeding operations (AFO) and biosolids application through the Office of Environmental Enforcement. The following table summarizes the enforcement efforts supported through Section 319 funding.

Environmental Enforcement
NON-POINT SOURCE GRANT

	CAFO/AFO Inspections	CAFO/AFO Complaints Inv	CAFO/AFO Letters	CAFO/AFO Site Visits	Stormwater Inspections	Stormwater Complaints Inv	Land Application Sites
Northwest					22	3	
Northeast	2	1		7	29	25	3
Southwest	53	3				200	
Southeast	5				128	116	9
Sludge							50
Total	60	4		7	179	344	62

Monitoring

The NPS Program has coordinated with the Watershed Assessment and Strategic Planning Program (WASP) in the preparation of QAPjP for water quality monitoring and assessment of NPS pollution. The WASP has completed its first five-year cycle of monitoring in all of the state's watersheds and returned to the first watershed grouping. The NPS Program has maintained a close coordination with the Citizens Stream Monitoring Program (CSMP), which stresses the education of the public on non-point source issues. The CSMP held 40 workshops and 36 outreach and education presentations with 1724 participants.

Coordinating with Partner Agencies

The updated NPS Management Plan for silvaculture is guided by the goal of achieving compliance with the Logging Sediment Control Act (LSCA). The LSCA requires BMPs to reduce NPS pollution due to logging. The NPS Program has coordinated with the WV Division of Forestry (DOF) in grant guidance, the updated NPS Management Plan and logger certification and pollution complaints. The NPS Program has maintained files on compliance with the LSCA and distributed information upon request. The NPS Program Manager has represented WVDEP in scheduled meetings regarding forestry NPS pollution issues including the Logging BMP Adoption Committee to review and update the logging BMP manual. The NPS Program Coordinator attended a meeting and tour with the U.S. Forest Service concerning their forestry management plan in a watershed of the Monongahela National Forest.

The OWR NPS Program, through extensive coordination with the WV Soil Conservation Agency (WVSCA), has provided guidance and oversight in managing the construction and agriculture components of the NPS Program. Construction projects with land disturbances greater than three acres are referred to the OWR Permits Section for a NPDES permit. Projects with disturbances less than three acres are protected by a Sediment Control Plan (SCP) reviewed and approved by a WVSCA NPS technician. Upon approval by the WVSCA technician, it is submitted for approval by the OWR NPS Program. During the calendar year 2001 approval of 115 SCPs were submitted, 100 were approved and 15 were rejected or forwarded to the Permits Section. The Program has coordinated closely with these technicians to encourage and assist in the implementation of BMPs for construction sites.

The NPSP has maintained coordination with WVSCA in the funding and implementation of the North Fork of the South Branch of the Potomac River and the Spring Creek priority watershed projects. These are projects in priority watersheds selected by the Watershed Management Framework (WMF) process as part of the Unified Watershed Assessment. Both projects have seen increased activity over the last year. The North Fork has been monitored by the WVDEP and The WV Department of Agriculture. Results are being studied at this time with consideration being given to removing the North Fork from the State's 303(d) list. The Program has also coordinated oversight of the Green's Run project in the Cheat River watershed, also a priority watershed. The WMF lost its coordinator this year but the NPSP has continued the process and with the WVSCA worked to fill that void in the Finks Run, Pecks Run, Upper Buckhannon River watersheds. This project area was added as a new incremental project.

Stakeholders in the North Fork Incremental Project inspect a concrete livestock feeding area, one of the BMPs funded through this project.

As a part of the Spring Creek Incremental Project and the Little Kanawha TMDL the WVDEP Office of Oil and Gas has conducted an inventory with GIS mapping of gas wells and roads with Section 319 funds. In Spring Creek 192 wells have been inspected and meetings with operators have been conducted. Recommendations for improving the operations to reduce erosion were made. Follow up inspections are in process now.

The NPSP serves as the WVDEP representative on the State Technical Committee for Agriculture and in the Environmental Work Group for the Flood Protection Plan Taskforce. The latter is developing a plan to recommend to the state legislature for reducing the damage from floods.

Outreach and Education

The OWR NPS Program Coordinator has maintained an active OWR NPSP presence in the WV Watershed Network (WVWN) as the committee chairperson for the Training Committee and on the committee to organize the annual Watershed Celebration Day. During 2001 the Training Committee organized and presented a workshop to educate watershed association volunteers to various aspects and issues regarding watershed management. The WVWN is an organization of government and non-profit groups organized to provide support for watershed associations and the Stream Partners Program. The Stream Partners Program (SPP) provides grants and assistance to watershed associations. The OWR NPS Program Coordinator is a member of the SPP Review Committee.

Watershed association volunteers take part in a discussion during the "Grassroots Approach to Watershed Management" workshop sponsored by the West Virginia Watershed Network.

The NPSP is involved in supporting efforts to provide outreach and education to the public concerning nonpoint source pollution. The Program has participated in two field days for two county school systems. The Program has participated in meetings and calls with four cities and one county regarding urban runoff nonpoint source pollution

issues. The Program has produced a new "Enviro-Factsheet" for urban runoff and has written a manual to introduce officials to urban runoff issues.

Looking Ahead

In 2001 the state was granted supplemental funds for the NPSP and its partners. The NPSP will use those funds to add field personnel to its staff. The purpose of these two positions is to coordinate special projects, perform needed monitoring and to provide compliance assistance. The positions were announced and interviews were conducted during FY 2001 and two people have been selected recently.

The NPSP has started the process with its partners of shifting the emphasis of the priority projects to nonpoint source TMDL implementation in accordance with the latest EPA guidelines. Water quality impairment has always been a major factor in the selection of WMF priority watersheds, however other factors such as availability of resources, citizen support and feasibility of success have also been considered. The priority projects now underway took a year or more to set the foundation and build public support. For this reason they will be continued and will contribute to reducing the pollutant loading of their larger watersheds, which are having or have had TMDLs developed.

NPS PROGRAM MANAGEMENT PLAN PROGRESS: ADMINISTRATION AND COORDINATION

Goal 2 – 1: Conduct restoration activities and best management practices implementation in the priority watersheds by 2020 as designated by the Watershed Management Framework and the TMDL process with the goal of achieving compliance with the Clean Water Act and fulfillment of all designated uses for all the state's watersheds.

- The NPSP has coordinated enforcement and compliance support with category management agencies.
- The NPSP has maintained coordination with WVSCA in the funding and implementation of the North Fork of the South Branch of the Potomac and Spring Creek priority watershed projects. Both projects have seen increased activity over the last year. The North Fork has been monitored by the WVDEP and The WV Department of Agriculture. Results are being studied at this time with consideration being given to removing the North Fork from the State's 303(d) list.
- WRASs for Blue Creek and Little Sandy Creek of the Elk River and Finks Run, Pecks Run and the Upper Buckhannon of the Buckhannon River have been approved.
- Plans for the Buckhannon River drainages are being developed.

Goal 2 - 2: Annually update each existing category (agriculture, construction, silviculture, and resource extraction) and includes additional sub-category updates on sludge land application, basin wide management, hydrologic modification, urban stormwater and septic tank retrofit to allow use of SRF monies

- The NPSP has started the process with its partners of shifting the emphasis of the priority projects to nonpoint source TMDL implementation
- All category work-plans were incorporated into revised grants and quarterly status reports were reviewed to ensure compliance with guidelines and milestones.

Goal 2 - 3: To assess the impact of nonpoint source pollution on the surface and groundwaters of West Virginia and to identify the specific causes of nonpoint source pollution by 2010.

- WASP has completed its first five-year cycle of monitoring in all of the state's watersheds and returned to the first watershed grouping.
- Two NPSP field technicians have been selected, part of their duties are to assess the success of projects.
- Citizens Stream Monitoring Program held 40 workshops and 36 outreach and education presentations with 1724 participants and has continued to spread throughout the state. A higher confidence level format was developed which

includes a more through habitat rating for documenting nonpoint source problems.

Goal 2 - 4: Implement a pilot project to serve as a template for the establishment and refinement of a state wide program to replace or repair failing septic systems by 2015.

- The project in Raleigh County is proceeding.

Goal 2 – 5: Enforce the 404 permit through the 401 certification with compliance and technical assistance from the WV Soil Conservation Agency, WV Division of Natural Resources and the US Fish & Wildlife Service to achieve at least 90% compliance by 2005.

- The NPSP has coordinated enforcement and compliance support with category management agencies. Activity in this goal increased significantly due to damage from the summer floods.

Goal 2 – 6: Identify streams in the priority watersheds, as designated by the Watershed Management Framework process, where stream bank erosion is causing water quality problems.

- Stream segments in priority watersheds are being identified, natural stream bank restoration is being emphasized.
- Educational presentations and a brochure were developed to promote the value of natural riparian zones as a protection from damaging floods.

Goal 2 – 7: Provide assistance through the Landowner Stream Access Program to stabilize stream banks in the priority watersheds.

- Working with the WVSCA to develop a stream bank restoration project in the Spring Creek priority watershed.

Goal 2 – 9: Develop an urban runoff program by 2005.

- The Program has produced a new "Enviro-Factsheet" for urban runoff and has written a manual to introduce officials to urban runoff issues.
- Contacts, meeting and/or presentations were made to officials from four cities and one county planning board.
- The Program has coordinated closely with WVSCA technicians to encourage and assist in the implementation of BMPs for construction sites. Erosion Sediment Control Plans (SCP) are reviewed, of 115 SCPs submitted, 100 were approved and 15 were rejected or forwarded to the Permits Section.

Goal 7 – 1: By 2025, support and attain designated and beneficial water uses in watersheds affected by acid mine drainage from abandoned mine lands.

- The Johnson Knob Project in the Paint Creek watershed has been completed, treating AMD from the most serious source. A Catch and Release section for trout has been established and stocking of trout has increased in numbers and area.
- The design phase of the Greens Run project in the Cheat River watershed has been completed. Construction should begin in the Spring 2002.
- The Sovern Run of the Cheat River is still in the design phase.

Goal 7 – 2: By 2010, provide information and data necessary utilizing a Holistic Watershed Approach to assist in developing watershed management plans through the Watershed Management Framework for the protection and restoration of water resources impacted by resource extraction category NPS pollution

- The Stream Restoration Group has continued its monitoring in the Paint Creek watershed and is planning a monitoring sweep with volunteer assistance in the Finks Run, Pecks Run and Upper Buckhannon River watersheds.

Goal 7 – 4: By 2001, begin the implementation of watershed protection and restoration plans in priority watersheds that address resource extraction category NPS pollution utilizing a Holistic Watershed Approach through a Watershed Management Framework that identifies priorities, solutions, funding, implementation, and stakeholders

- The Office of Oil and Gas (OO&G) has inventoried gas well roads and wells in the Little Kanawha watershed including NPS priority watershed, Spring Creek.
- OO&G has consulted with the gas companies on needed BMPs and maintenance in the Little Kanawha River watershed.

FY 2001

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR
AGRICULTURE
&
CONSTRUCTION
NONPOINT SOURCE PROGRAM

WV SOIL CONSERVATION AGENCY

FY 2001 ANNUAL REPORT - AGRICULTURE

The agriculture component of the nonpoint source program was very successful in FY 2001 in accomplishing the goals and objectives outlined in the Nonpoint Source Five Year Management Plan. The successful year can be attributed to the efforts of the Conservation Partnership. This partnership consists of the West Virginia Soil Conservation Agency, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the 14 Soil Conservation Districts. Specifics on these goals may be found in the attached list of accomplishments.

The use of cost share programs including Environmental Quality Incentive Program, Incremental 319 and the Agriculture Water Quality Loan Program were instrumental in putting water quality conservation practices on the land.

With the support of the Federal Environmental Protection Agency, the North Fork of the South Branch and the Spring Creek 319 Incremental projects continue to move forward into addressing nonpoint source impacts, which may result from agricultural activities. During this year a third year of funding for the Spring Creek Project was approved to further address the water quality impacts in the watershed. A third (Upper Buckhannon, Finks Run, and Pecks Run) 319 Incremental Watershed Project was instituted early in this fiscal year. Preliminary meetings, draft procedures manual and contacts with local watershed associations have been established to date. The Conservation Partnership along with the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection-Division of Water Resources are working well together to make this project an outstanding example of what government at all levels and grassroots watershed organizations can accomplish.

FY 2001 ANNUAL REPORT – CONSTRUCTION

During FY 2001, the construction component of the nonpoint source program also provided technical assistance and education to landowners, contractors, developers, and local governments in West Virginia. Review of construction sediment control plans continues for disturbed acreage less than three acres.

Technical assistance for the development of sediment control plans, and during construction activities continues on a statewide basis with the emphasis being placed in priority watersheds identified through public request and the West Virginia Watershed Framework.

In an effort to recognize the contractors and developers who are effectively planning and implementing soil and water conservation practices, the Watershed Resource Center of the West Virginia Soil Conservation Agency has successfully coordinated the 2001 West Virginia Conservation Contractor and Developer Awards Program. This awards program is co-sponsored with the West Virginia Contractors Association, the West Virginia Association of Conservation Districts, and the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection. In developing land to serve the needs of commerce and industry, there is an increasing awareness of the need for maintaining the stability of the soil and the quality of water around the construction site.

FY 2001 ANNUAL REPORT

AGRICULTURE WATER QUALITY LOAN PROGRAM

In February 1997 the West Virginia Soil Conservation Agency announced the West Virginia Agriculture Water Quality Loan Program (AgWQLP). This endeavor was make possible by a unique partnership and cooperation of the WV Department of Environmental Protection, the stat's 14 Soil Conservation districts and the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Since the inception of the loan program in 1997, the loan program has helped make it possible for agriculture producers to utilize valuable programs funded by the USDA-NRCS and matching funds provided by the WVSCA, with the programs being the Potomac Headwaters Land Treatment Project (PL-534) and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

In 2000, the WVSCA initiated and administered 319 Incremental Projects. AgWQLP loan dollars were made available to agriculture producers in North Fork of the South Branch in Pendleton County and Spring Creek in Wirt and Roane County.

In 2001, with the cooperation of the WV Department of Environmental Protection and Region 3 Environmental Protection Agency, the WV AgWQLP was attainable to approved cooperators to implement Forestry Best Management Practices. The eligible cooperators must first be approved for 319 Incremental Projects for forestry incentives.

The above-mentioned programs provide 60% to 75% for installation cost to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs). The loan program provides the 40% to 25% out-of-pocket expense at a 2% interest rate.

In Fiscal Year 2001, 32 loans were secured from local landowners for a total of $518,683. Overall, 203 loans have been funded for a total of $3,015,646 for the entire program since its inception in 1997.

FY 2001 ANNUAL REPORT

WEST VIRGINIA WATERSHED RESOURCE CENTER

As the State's leading resource center for watersheds, the Watershed Resource Center focuses its energy and resources towards providing training, information transfer and assistance to the more than 80 local watershed associations and groups that are forming throughout West Virginia. The focal point of the Watershed Resource Center lies within providing the public with the resource they need to understand their watershed.

The Watershed Resource Center is a centralized location where individuals and groups can obtain information about their watershed. Embellishments within the library include watershed Hydrologic region status reports, watershed restoration action strategies, videos, periodicals and fact sheets. The information contained at the Watershed Resource Center continues to be a positive force in environmental education throughout the state. During FY 01, 57 informational/training activities have been held for 7876 individuals.

Information received at the Watershed Resource Center is transferred through the Watershed Resources newsletter (distributed quarterly). The Watershed Resource Center is operated at the Cedar Lakes Conference Center in Ripley, WV.

The Internet web site addresses are as follows:

Watershed Resource Center Web Site: **WWW.WVWRC.ORG**
Watershed Resource Center Email: **Info@wvwrc.org**

This web site is brought to you through the combined efforts of the following agencies in a cooperative partnership: West Virginia's 14 Soil Conservation Districts, USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service, RC&D and the WV Soil Conservation Agency. In addition to the Conservation Partnership, the Watershed Resource Center is a cooperative effort by the WV Department of Education, WV Department of Environmental Protection and the US Environmental Protection Agency.

FY 2001 ANNUAL REPORT – BIOSOLIDS PROGRAM

A cooperative agreement is in place with the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection for the West Virginia Soil Conservation Agency to provide technical and educational assistance for the sound land application of municipal waste or biosolids

Biosolids can represent a potential resource which can be land applied to result in positive effects on soil and plants. All land application is performed in a manner that is protective of human health and the environment. The Agency is responsible for conducting site evaluations for potential land application sites and developing site utilization plans based on plant uptake of nutrients. The Agency will also provide technical assistance on best management practices for the landowners applying biosolids.

For Fiscal Year 2001, 150 farms were reviewed, 405 fields were evaluated, 6,965.9 acres were reviewed, 4,383.97 acres were acceptable for land application, 70 nutrient management plans were developed, 394,739 pounds of nitrogen was managed, 138,858 pounds of phosphorus was managed, 211,611 pounds of potassium was managed, and 46 wastewater treatment plants were provide with technical assistance.

FY 2001 ANNUAL REPORT

ELK AND TYGARTS VALLEY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

WATERSHED PROJECT

The Watershed Conservationist located in the Elk Soil Conservation District conducts the nonpoint source program within both the Elk and Tygarts Valley Soil Conservation districts. This program includes education and technical assistance on agriculture and construction nonpoint source issues, land application of biosolids, and assistance to watershed groups.

The Watershed Conservationist provided assistance to several watersheds including Upper Buckhannon River, Finks Run, and Pecks Run. The Buckhannon River Watershed Association has been formed, and assistance was provided through attending meetings and offering input. The EPA has approved an Incremental 319 agriculture project for the above-mentioned watersheds. The Watershed Conservationist is the local contact representative for the West Virginia Soil Conservation Agency, when working in these three watersheds and with the Buckhannon River Watershed Association.

The Watershed Conservationist provides assistance with the biosolids program, nutrient management for farmland, sediment and erosion control assistance to landowners, developers and contractors, and flood recovery work when deemed necessary.

FY 2001 – ANNUAL REPORT

WEST VIRGINIA'S CONSERVATION GRASSLAND PROGRAM

In an effort to improve the quality of the State's existing and potential pasture and hay lands, West Virginia's Conservation Partnership designed and began implementation in Fiscal Year 1999 of a special grassland program that will provide coordinated support and training to agriculture producers.

Specifically, the program includes commitments for increased technical assistance, an increased number of grassland management plans and a series of demonstration farms to highlight innovative grassland farming techniques.

The West Virginia Soil Conservation Agency and USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service have jointly funded three full-time grassland technicians for the state.

Local grassland committees have been developed to identify and implement grassland management plans. With some variation among Districts, this includes the use of District equipment for conservation work and practices, demonstration projects, field days, and presentation of the outstanding grassland farmer award.

These plans contain information on all aspects of the grassland operation, including marketing, herd health and planned conservation practices.

Development of the plans will be accomplished by the existing field office staff, along with technical assistance from the State and Federal specialists and form other agencies such as the WVU Cooperative Extension Service, the Farm Service Agency and the Districts.

FY 2001 ANNUAL REPORT

MOUNTWOOD PARK LAKE AND

SPRING CREEK WATERSHED PROJECTS

The Watershed Conservationist is providing educational, technical assistance, research, and financial assistance to watershed projects and groups in the Little Kanawha and Upper Ohio Soil Conservation Districts. In addition, information is being provided to local, state and federal governmental personnel, industries having nonpoint source impacts in the watershed areas, and the general public.

The primary focus of the Watershed conservationist is the Mountwood Park Lake and Spring Creek watersheds. A TMDL has been developed on Mountwood Park Lake for sediment and monitoring for the Spring Creek TMDL has been conducted. Spring Creek is listed on the State's 303(d) list and violates water quality standards for iron and aluminum, believed to be attached to soil particles, and therefore resulting form natural and man induced erosion.

The Mountwood Park Lake and Upper Walker Creek in Wood County, WV suffers from nonpoint source pollution created by a multitude of sources including oil and gas extraction, highway construction and maintenance, silviculture, agriculture, irresponsible land disturbance, and natural causes (predominately stream bank erosion). Education and technical assistance is coordinated by the Watershed Conservationist through the existing resources of the Little Kanawha Soil Conservation District, Little Kanawha RC&D, USDA-NRCS, and other parties.

The Mountwood Park Lake watershed has been identified in the NPS Management Plan and is a # 1 priority for the Little Kanawha Soil Conservation District. Mountwood Park Lake has undergone Phase I and part of Phase II of the EPA funded Clean Lakes Program. Upper Walker Creek is the primary tributary to this Lake on which the Watershed conservationist is concentrating his efforts. This study has identified the need for the installation of oil and gas extraction, agriculture, highway construction and maintenance, silviculture, and stream bank stabilization best management practices.

The WVSCA has developed a detailed plan to restore the Mountwood Park Lake and has undertaken several activities toward this end to date, including stabilization of 65 acres of the Fire Tac site and the removal of siltation form the check dams located on Mudlick Run of Walker Creek. Funding and/or in-kind contributions have been provided by USDA-NRCS, Little Kanawha SCD, Little Kanawha RC&D, Wood County Parks and Recreation, and prison inmates.

The Spring Creek Watershed is comprised of 54,350 acres, which contains approximately 150 farms. The watershed is divided into two hydrological units because of watershed planning previously done to provide flood protection and water supply for Spencer. Land use problems above and below Spencer are similar. Located in the center of the watershed is the City of Spencer, which is the largest town in the watershed, and is the county seat of Roane County.

FY 2001 ANNUAL REPORT

POTOMAC HEADWATERS WATERSHED PROJECT

The North Fork 319 Water Quality Project is in its second year of funding. A total of 14 agricultural contracts and one forestry contract have been signed and approved by the Potomac Valley Soil conservation District.

Staff has spent a significant amount of time working with two new watershed associations forming within the area. Technical assistance and guidance has been given on the initial organization of these associations. The Hampshire County-South Branch Watershed Association held its first public meeting on October 22, 2001, and Stalnaker Run Watershed Association held its second public meeting October 11, 2001. Both associations are focusing on stream bank stabilization as well as other water quality problems.

Staff assisted with nominations for the Watershed of the Year as well as the Conservation Contractor of the Year. This was the Potomac Valley Soil Conservation District's first year participating in the Conservation Contractor of the Year Award. The State judging competition was held on September 25, 2001 and the winners were announced in Charleston on October 18, 2001, at the Annual Conservation Partnership Meeting.

Educational activities for this year included a presentation on erosion and water quality issues to fifteen educators from around the State. Farm Bureau sponsors "Ag in the Classroom" each year in cooperation with WVU Extension Service. The Hardy County Committee on Aging requested staff from WVSCA to a large group of senior citizens on the health of our watershed. This program was well received with much interaction from the participants. An article was submitted to "Today's Resources" highlighting this activity. The West Virginia Poultry Festival was held during July with support from WVSCA staff. Educational articles were printed in the "Moorefield Examiner's" Poultry Supplement.

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture's Litter Subsidy Program has been successful in moving over 2,402.33 tons of poultry litter. WVSCA staff has been responsible for handling the transaction process of this program.

Multi-District support has been a key factor in accomplishing the goals and projects for this year. Focus will continue on the North Fork 319 Watershed Project as well as supporting watershed associations. WVSCA will continue it's educational outreach program and looks for to the challenges ahead.

FY 2001 ANNUAL REPORT

NPS WATERSHED PROJECT SIXTEEN MILE CREEK

In the project area, five agriculture contracts were developed and funded through the EQIP program. There was $25,000 available during the current year. The five contracts were finalized in the watershed in August 2001. These contracts encompass 812.1 acres and will receive approximately $26,213 in cost share dollars at a rate of 75%. The total for the two years of working within the watershed is 1862.1 acres.

There have been two feeding areas installed in the fall of 1999 and one heavy use animal walkway, two during the summer and fall of 2000, and two during the summer of 2001. Five more feeding pads are to be installed within the next year. All of which have a nutrient management plan attached to the practice.

All of the completed feeding areas have a minimum 50 foot buffer from a waterway and the six completed ponds have a 25 foot minimum buffer fenced out around the pond. Additional buffers will be installed on the five feeding pads and the three ponds.

Currently there is very little corn grown in the watershed, but through the Western Soil Conservation District program the Environmental Specialist and the summer intern have tested over 1450 acres of corn in Mason and Putnam Counties for the 2001 growing season.

Presented a water quality game (WHO POLLUTED) to over 1500 students in Mason, Jackson, and Putnam Counties in May 2001. Also representing the Agency and all of the state soil conservation agencies across the nation in an IAS field steering team to help develop a new reporting system to reduce the amount of lost reportable items.

FY 2001 ANNUAL REPORT

SOUTHERN NONPOINT SOURCE WATERSHED PROJECT

The West Virginia Soil Conservation Agency Nonpoint Source Environmental Specialist located in the Beckley Field Office conducts the NPS Program Southern Nutrient Management Demonstration Project/Southern Watershed Restoration and Management Project. The Specialist also provides services to the Southern and Greenbrier Valley Soil Conservation District.

The NPS Environmental Specialist continues to serve as a local clearinghouse for erosion and sediment control technical assistance and permit requirement information to the public. Numerous questions were answered by telephone relating to those issues.

The NPS Environmental Specialist continues to provide assistance to several watershed associations including Upper Knapps Creek Watershed Association, Plateau Action Network (Wolf Creek Watershed), and Trap Hill Watershed Association (Marsh Fork Watershed). Meetings of these groups are attended as necessary and assistance is provided in project planning and with development of grant proposals. Staff also participates on technical committees for these watershed associations.

Specifically, association meetings and technical review committee meetings were attended for the Upper Knapps Creek Project development for stream restoration using fluvial geomorphology techniques. A proposal is being prepared jointly between the Watershed Association, NRCS, and WVSCA for PL-566 funding for this project. A cost/benefit analysis is also being prepared. During the March meeting, the watershed association voted to proceed with the land stabilization program under PL-566. The final draft report from Clear Creek Consulting has been received.

The Nonpoint Source Environmental Specialist also provides assistance with the Biosolids Program on an as needed basis.

FY 2001 ANNUAL REPORT

WATERSHED ASSISTANCE

NONPOINT SOURCE PROJECT

The West Virginia Soil Conservation Agency Nonpoint Source Environmental Specialist provides assistance to the Capitol, Guyan, and Western Soil Conservation Districts, and eight county area in southwestern West Virginia. From the beginning, the position has focused on nonpoint source construction issues associated with development in the Teays Valley Area. More recently, the project area was further restricted to the Hurricane Creek area. Although there is a continuing need for technical and educational assistance in that area, the recent development of several local watershed associations will allow for comprehensive watershed improvement through community based and supported projects. In addition, the recent identification of the Blue Creek and Little Sandy Creek Watersheds as priorities by the WV Watershed Management Framework and the commitment of the WV Soil Conservation Partnership to assist the Framework in the development of Restoration Action Strategies and subsequent Incremental 319 project proposals, has led to the inclusion of these watersheds as the main component of this proposal.

The intent of this proposal is to assist development of local watershed groups and their plans for comprehensive watershed restoration and management projects. The problems and needs are different in each watershed, as well as local organization and ability to successfully address the issues. In addition, it is proposed that regional assistance with ongoing conservation programs be provided.

FY 2001 ANNUAL REPORT - AGRICULTURE

The following accomplishments were achieved in FY 2001:

AGRICULTURE NPS ACTIVITY	UNITS
Stream management plans developed	201
Acres riparian area developed	49
Nutrient management plans developed	28
Acres nutrient management planning	2416
Pounds nitrogen managed	805,145
Pounds phosphorus managed	770,890
Livestock feeding areas stabilized or relocated	71
Pounds nitrogen managed	156,942
Pounds phosphorus managed	89,410
Farmers provided assistance on composting	9
Tons of manure managed through composting	570
DEP referrals	4

AGRICULTURE NPS ACTIVITY	UNITS
Acres grassland management	2625.4
Tons soil saved through grassland plans	5640.24
Farmers provided grassland technical assistance	302
Other agriculture BMPs implemented	109
Agriculture BMP workshops	3
Ag BMP workshop participants	672
Agriculture field days and pasture walks	35
Participants	1194
Agriculture NPS articles published	16

FY 2001 ANNUAL REPORT – AGRICULTURE WATER QUALITY LOAN PROGRAM

Total Agriculture Water Quality Loan program status:

AGRICULTURE WATER QUALITY LOAN PROGRAM TO DATE	UNITS
Total applications received	378
Total loans funded	205
Total dollars obligated	$3,135,057

Agriculture Water Quality Loan Status by program.

PROGRAM	APPLICATIONS	LOANS FUNDED	DOLLARS LOANED
EQIP	63	7	$46.017
Incremental 319	1	1	$3,837
Potomac Headwaters Water Quality Project	311	197	$3,085,203

FY 2001 ANNUAL REPORT - BIOSOLIDS

The following accomplishments were achieved in FY 2001:

BIOSOLIDS NPS ACTIVITY	UNITS
Farms reviewed	150
Fields evaluated	405
Acres reviewed	6,966
Acres acceptable for land application	4,384
Nutrient management plans developed	70
Pounds nitrogen managed	394,739
Pounds phosphorus managed	138,858
Follow ups on nutrient management plans	15
Waste water treatment plants assisted	42
Staff, waste water treatment plant operators, and farmers trained in biosolids management	120

FY 2001 ANNUAL REPORT - CONSTRUCTION

During FY 2000, the construction component of the nonpoint source program provided technical assistance and education to landowners, contractors, developers, and local governments in West Virginia. Review of construction sediment control plans continues for disturbed acreages less than 3 acres.

CONSTRUCTION NPS ACTIVITY	UNITS
Erosion and Sediment Control Plans Reviewed	156
Acres covered	724.64
Tons of soil saved	65,218
Individuals provided technical assistance	560
Construction BMP workshops held	6
Professionals educated	378
Presentations to schools, civic groups, etc.	17
Presentations to local planning commissions, governments, etc.	14
Construction BMP articles published	3

FY 2000 ANNUAL REPORT - WATERSHED SUPPORT

Watershed support by the Conservation Partnership continues to be in demand from residents and watershed groups throughout West Virginia.

The following table lists watershed assistance provided to groups and type:

WATERSHED	ASSISTANCE PROVIDED
Blue Creek Watershed Association	Stream Partners grant for natural stream channel restoration project
Briscoe Run	Formation of watershed association, local watershed plan, and storm water management technical assistance, WV Stream Partners Program
Buckhannon River Watershed Association	Formation of a watershed association, water quality monitoring, grant acquisition for WRAS implementation
Cedar Creek	Save Our Streams Monitoring
Dunloup Creek	Stream bank erosion, storm water management, and erosion and sediment control BMP technical assistance
Friends of the Cacapon	Grants program workshop, storm water management and erosion and sediment control technical assistance
Friends of Sleepy Creek	Storm water management and erosion and sediment control technical assistance
Inwood Watershed Committee	Grant writing, funds acquisition, field tours, and engineering design for storm water management project.
Little Sandy Creek	Formation of a watershed association Flooding, agriculture, storm water management, and erosion and sediment control technical assistance, WV Stream Partners Program

WATERSHED	ASSISTANCE PROVIDED
Lower West Fork	Site evaluations for tree planting and soil sampling
Middleway Conservancy	Meeting facilitation, preliminary design work and funding for storm water management project, erosion and sediment control technical assistance
North Fork of South Branch Potomac	Watershed Restoration Action Strategy implementation
Plateau Action Network (Wolf Creek)	Stream bank erosion technical assistance
South Branch Potomac of Hampshire County	Formation of watershed association Stream bank erosion technical assistance
Stalnalker Run	Formation of watershed association Stream bank erosion technical assistance
Tuscarora Creek	Prioritization of storm water management and water quality issues, erosion and sediment control technical assistance
Upper Knapps Creek Watershed	Natural Stream Restoration Agriculture NPS and BMPs

NPS PROGRAM MANAGEMENT PLAN PROGRESS: AGRICULTURE

Chapter 3 - Agriculture

Goal 3-1 **Provide support to and coordination with WV Watershed Management Framework to identify, prioritize and implement watershed projects - 2000 - 2005.**

Objective 1 WV Watershed Management Framework did not meet in 2001 Projects identified in 2000 are continuing.

Objective 2 Data was collected through the Soil Conservation Districts for the Monongahela Little Kanawha, Lower and Upper New, and Greenbrier

Objective 3 5 WRAS are being implemented in Upper Buckhannon, Finks Run, Peck Run, Blue Creek, Little Sandy Creek, North Fork of South Branch Potomac, and Spring Creek.

Objective 4 Ag water quality management objectives were developed for watershed management plans in Upper Buckhannon, Finks Run, Pecks Run, Spring Creek, North Fork and Robinson Run.

Objective 5 The most effective BMPs/ management options were determine and documented in the watersheds listed under Objective 4.

Objective 6 2 priority Watershed were provided technical assistance to their agriculture producers, the North Fork of the South Branch Potomac and Spring Creek Watersheds

Objective 7 2 Watershed management plans progress was monitored, the North Fork of South Branch Potomac and Spring Creek

Goal 3-2: **Provide support and guidance to local watershed associations with agricultural nonpoint source issues - 2000 - 2005**

Objective 1 Buckhannon River Watershed Association
Little Sandy Creek Watershed Association
North Fork Watershed Association
South Branch Potomac Hampshire County
Upper Knapps Creek

Objective 2 Buckhannon River Watershed Association
Little Sandy Creek Watershed Association

Objective 3 Resources provided to WSA included training, monitoring, grant assistance, WS plans,

informational and educational materials distributed, assistance with Stream Partners Program, partnership with WV Watershed Network, WV Watershed Management Framework, technical assistance, streambank stabilization

Objective 4 Assistance was provided to 5 Watershed Associations with Stream Partners Program

Goal 3-3: **Reduce impacts to surface waters in West Virginia from soil erosion on agricultural lands with a focus on priority watersheds identified through the Watershed Management Framework to achieve compliance with water quality standards by 2010.**

Objective 1 1 sediment control plans were reviewed on 1.83 acres

Objective 2 Finalizing MOU between USDA and WV Governor to implement CREP

Objective 3 49 acres of riparian areas established.

Objective 4 Bioengineering will be used on Horseshoe Run, Knapps Creek, Spring Creek, North Fork of South Branch

Objective 5 Work continues through CREP, Partners for Wildlife, etc.

Objective 6 213 contacts to WVSCA, 201 stream management plans developed for landowners

Goal 3-4 **Develop and implement nutrient management plans with agriculture producers to manage 580,000 lbs of nitrogen and 420,000 lbs of phosphorus per year.**

Objective 1 28 nutrient management plans developed on 2416 acres to manage **805,145 pounds of nitrogen and 770,890 pounds of phosphorus.**

Objective 2 Technical assistance and follow up provided.

Objective 3 Approximately 5,000 tons of poultry litter distributed outside the Potomac Valley

Goal 3-5 **Reduce reliance on government for implementation of the presidess nitrogen testing program (PSNT) for free up professional staff to allow for broader education and technical assistance.**

Objective 1 39 farmers were trained in soil sampling

Objective 2 3 farmers were trained on the use of PSNT equipment

Objective 3 PSNT supplies provided by Soil Conservation Districts

Objective 4 FY99 investigated use of chlorophyll meters

Objective 5 FY99 info. transferred through test plots, Wappatomika, and newsletters

Goal 3-6 **Work with the agriculture community on the installation of agriculture best management practices with a focus on priority watersheds identifies through Watershed Management Framework, TMDLS, etc- 2000-2005**

Objective 1 71 livestock feeding areas were stabilized or relocated

Objective 2 109 agriculture BMPs were implemented

Objective 3 4 referalls from DEP for technical assistance to potential violators

Objective 4 9 farmers were provided assistance on composting.
570 tons of manure were managed through composting

Objective 5 2 tours held for 10 individuals

Objective 6 No significant progress on these demonstrations.

Goal 3-7 **Obtain a better understanding of the movement or transport of phosphorus through the soil to establish appropriate best management practices by 2005**

Objective 1 Staff are currently using the phosphorus index in planning and found it is often needed on moderate slope croplands wich have had historic litter application

Objective 2 WVU Extension Service is conducting research on several plots in Grant Co. with a rain simulator and the phosphorus index.

Goal 3-8 **Evaluate status of Animal Feeding Operations (AFOs) in West Virginia**

Objective 1 30,854 acres of nutrient management planning conducted on AFOs in WV

Objective 2 77 farmers provided technical assistance on AFOs.

Objective 3 EQIP and SRF, where available, can be used for AFO BMPs

Goal 3-9 **Coordinate with WVDA, WVSCA, USDA, CES, WV Department of Health and Human Resources and others to establish waste management guidelines for aquaculture.**

Objective 1 Standards and specifications completed Nov. 2000

Objective 2 Materials developed and distributed. Aquaculture conference to be held 2001

Goal 3-10 **Manage pesticides on 5000 acres to protect surface and ground water by 2005.**

Objective 1 10,056 acres of pest management on 171 farms

Objective 2 Educational program developed for pesticides and lawn care

Objective 3 4 workshop held on pesticides and lawn care

Goal 3-11 **Implement pesticide container disposal program coordinated by WV Department of Agriculture.**

Objective 1 2 pesticide collection days were held

Objective 2 20,280 pesticide containers were collected

Objective 3 Company research continues nationally

Objective 4 3 mixing pads/containment facilities installed

Objective 5 4 pesticide educational programs were held

Goal 3-12 **Develop professional and credible field staff - 2000 - 2005**

Objective 1 3 staff persons participated in the Mid Atlantic Certified Crop Advisor by attending Nutrient Management Training.

Objective 2 Necessary training to increase understanding of NPS issues and BMPs was provided on GPS, nutrient management, biosolids, erosion and sediment control, watershed management, Customer Tool Kit, water quality, agriculture BMPs, forestry BMPs, natural stream restoration and SOS monitoring.

Objective 3 Training provided on natural stream channel design

Objective 4 Summer intern program has been adopted jointly by WVSCA, NRCS and SCDs

Goal 3-13 **Manage 3,000,000 lbs of nitrogen, 6,000,000 lbs of phosphorus and save 200,000 tons of soil through the statewide grassland management program by 2005.**

Objective 1 18 grassland field days and pasture walks with 519 participants
4 Forage Livestock Schools for 160 participants.

Objective 2 24 grassland plans were developed for 2625.4 acres to prevent erosion of 5640.24 tons of soil and to manage 47,500 lbs of nitrogen and phosphorus

Objective 3 302 farmers were provided technical assistance

Objective 4 Forage analysis was conducted on 58 farms
Fecal analysis was conducted on 25 farms

Objective 5 Numerous brochures and fact sheets were developed within the program
2 videos produced on grasslands management.

Objective 6 All practices have been completely installed on grassland demonstration farms.
Field days and pasture walks are held as well as continued technical assistance.

Objective 7 Accomplished FY 99 and records continue to be maintained

Objective 8 Ongoing

Objective 9 335 acres prepared for revegetation of forest land

Objective 10 6 case studies were developed

Objective 11 6 meetings of state and local grazing lands steering committee. Developed annual plan of work.

Objective 12 Triticale production fact sheet developed

Goal 3-14 **Conduct 55 (1 per county) presentations of WV Watersafe program by 2005.**

3 WV Watersafe presentations were given to 300 participants in Hardy and Grant Counties

Goal 3-15 **Use the Agriculture Water Quality Loan Program (AgWQLP) in priority watersheds (including TMDL watersheds) in West Virginia to encourage implementation of needed best management practices - 2000 - 20005.**

378 applications received, 205 loans were funded for a total of $3,135,057

Objective 1 EQIP - 63 applications, 7 loans funded for $46,017
319 - 1 application, 1 loan funded for $3837
PL-543 - 311 applications, 197 loans funded for $3,085,203

Objective 2 Program monitoring is ongoing. Working with Division of Forestry, DEP and EPA to utilize the program for forestry BMPs in North Fork of South Branch watershed

Objective 3 DHHR working with Rural Community Assistance Program to do this.

Goal 3-16 **Plan for nutrient and animal waste to reduce NPS impacts to surface and ground water by managing 65,000 lbs of nitrogen, 45,000 lbs of**

phosphorus and reduce soil erosion by 6500 tons, with a focus on priority watersheds identified through the Watershed Management Framework by 2005.

Objective 1 Worked with agriculture on biosolids land application in all 5 of the Watershed Management Framework Groupings including South Branch Potomac, Elk, Cheat, Tygart Valley, West Fork, Monongahela, Upper Ohio Norht, Mid Ohio North and South, Little Kanawha, Upper New, Gauley, Upper Kanawha River, Coal, Upper Guyandotte, and Tug Fork

Objective 2 10 staff trained in status of regulatory program and agency responsibility

Objective 3 70 nutrient plans were developed for 4383.97 acres

Objective 4 405 site evaluations were conducted on 6965.9 acres

Objective 5 20 farmers trained on biosolids program and related BMPs

Objective 6 15 farmers provided NMP follow up

Objective 7 Spreader calibration information compiled and is distributed to WWTPs

Objective 8 Assistance provided to 19 WTP's on soil testing

Objective 11 Initiation of use of GIS / GPS occurred in FY 00

Goal 3-17 **Improve and protect surface and groundwater in the South Branch, Potomac by managing 134,000 tons of animal waste consisting of 11,691,2000 lbs of nitrogen and 8,170,4000 tons of phosphorus by 2005.**

Objective 1 Potomac Interagency Water Quality Office continues to function as a viable component of the Potomac Project

Objective 2 Two composting demonstration tours held for 10 individuals
Approximately 5,000 tons of litter removed from watersheds with excess litter

Objective 3 44,873 acres nutrient management planning to manage 60,000 tons of poultry litter and 30,000 beef manure

Objective 4 199 litter storage structures constructed to manage 60,000 tons of litter consisting of 2,400,000 lbs of nitrogen and 3,600,000 lbs of phosphorus

Objective 5 76 dead bird composters constructed

Objective 6 51 livestock feeding areas improved to manage 80,000 lbs of nitrogen and 70,000 lbs of phosphorus

Objective 7 37 acres of riparian buffer established

Objective 8 Approximately 225 individuals were assisted and 5,000 tons of litter were moved through the Poultry Litter Hotline

Objective 9 Participated in WV Poultry Festival with a display, Virginia Poultry Symposium, and National Poultry Waste Symposium with a display on composting and ag BMPs

Goal 3-18 **Coordinate efforts between agencies through WVDA Laboratory facilities - 2000 - 2005.**

Objective 1 Monitoring being conducted in Little Kanawha TMDL watersheds

Objective 2 Manure and litter analysis are being conducted on an on-going basis for nutrient management planning

Goal 3-19 **Utilize USDA Environmental Quality Incentive Program and other available programs to provide financial assistance to implement water quality best management practices in watersheds targeted through the WV Watershed Management Framework - 2000 - 2005.**

Objective 1 WVSCA staff and District representatives participate in the identification and selection of EQIP watersheds.

Objective 2 WVSCA staff and District representatives assist in the identification of necessary BMPs in EQIP watersheds.

Objective 3 Watershed Management Framework priorities are considered during the identification and selection of EQIP priorities.

Goal 3-20 **Work to address issues related to urban/rural interface in the growing Eastern Panhandle and other areas of the state - 2000 -2005.**

Objective 1 Assistance has been provided on stormwater management to the community of Inwood. Educational activities have also been held for Tuscarora Creek watershed association and Friends of Sleepy Creek.

Objective 2 Farmland preservation legislation passed the WV Legislature during the 2000 session and local county committees are currently being established in Morgan Berkeley, Jefferson, and Greenbrier Counties.

Goal 3 - 21 **Improve data management and tracking of BMPs to show and measure water quality improvements - 2000-2005.**

Objective 1 GIS is being used to track practice installation and other project information for the North Fork of South Branch and Spring Creek 319 projects.

Objective 2 The use of GIS for biosolids tracking has been initiated.

Goal 3-22 **Conduct conservation and water quality education presentations and programs - 2000 - 2005.**

Objective 1 1 workshop was held and materials developed, and 4 BMP fact sheets were developed with assistance from the Watershed Resource Center

Objective 2 3 agriculture workshops were held with 672 participants

Objective 3 13 agriculture field days were held for 419 participants

Objective 4 12 articles were written for Today's Resources and other publications

Objective 5 32 educational activities held for 4342 participants

Goal 3-23 **Increase public involvement in agriculture NPS program**

Objective 1 A great deal of coordination has occurred in the last year to improve our NPS program delivery system through the Soil Conservation Districts

Objective 2 The public has been included in activities relating to the Watershed Management Framework priorities in particular and with our assistance to watershed associations

Objective 3 16 educational activities were held for the public on NPS and agriculture for 3884 participants

Objective 4 23 news articles and 5 educational publications were published and distributed

NPS PROGRAM MANAGEMENT PLAN PROGRESS: CONSTRUCTION

Chapter 4 - Construction

Goal 4 - 1 **Provide support to and coordination with WV Watershed Management Framework to identity, prioritize, and implement watershed projects - 2000 - 2005.**

Objective 1 WV Watershed Management Framework did not meet in 2001
Projects identified in 2000 are continuing.

Objective 2 Data was collected through the Soil Conservation Districts for the Monongahela Little Kanawha, Lower and Upper New, and Greenbrier

Objective 3 5 WRAS are being implemented in Upper Buckhannon, Finks Run, Peck Run, Blue Creek, Little Sandy Creek, North Fork of South Branch Potomac, and Spring Creek.

Objective 4 Construction water quality management objectives were developed for Upper Buckhannon, Finks Run, Pecks Run, Little Sandy Creek, and Spring Creek.

Objective 5 The most effective BMPs/ management options were determine and documented in the watersheds listed under Objective 4.

Goal 4-2 **Provide support and guidance to local watershed associations with construction nonpoint source issues - 2000 -2005.**

Objective 1 Continuous assessments are conducted to determine where assistance is needed

Objective 2 Dunloup Creek
Friends of Cacapon
Friends of Sleepy Creek
Little Sandy Creek
Middleway Conservancy
Tuscarora Creek

Objective 3 8 watershed associations were provided technical assistance on sediment and erosion control planning and issues.

Objective 4 Assistance was provided to 5 Watershed Associations with Stream Partners Program

Goal 4-3 **Reduce erosion of 108,000 tons of soil on 1200 acres of construction sites and other disturbed areas by 2002.**

Objective 1 156 construction sediment control plans reviewed on 724.64 acres to save 65,217.6 tons

of soil.

Objective 2 560 individuals provided technical assistance on construction BMPs

Goal 4-4 **Obtain consistent implementation and maintenance of construction BMPs by contractors by providing routing, on-site technical assistance to contractors and developers in cooperation with WVDEP - 2000-2005.**

190 individuals provided technical assistance on construction BMPs

Goal 4-5 **Educate contractors, developers, engineers and other professionals on construction nonpoint source issues and best management practices - 2000 - 2005.**

Objective 1 Construction BMP manual is finalized but not published

Objective 2 6 construction BMP workshops held with 378 attendees

Objective 3 Participated in the Contractors EXPO and made over 200 contacts with attendees

Objective 4 3 nominations were made for the state Conservation Developer and Contractor of the Year awards program.

Goal 4-6 **Educate the general public including schools on construction nonpoint source issues and best management practices using the Enviroscape and the Watershed Resource Center - 2000 -2005.**

Objective 1 17 presentations made to civic groups, schools, etc. on construction BMPs and stormwater management

Objective 2 3 articles written for publication in SCD newsletters and Today's Resources

Goal 4-7 **Improve the understanding of local governments on the need for regulations and adequate construction and stormwater management programs in identified priority watersheds - 2000 -2005.**

Objective 1 **Some accomplishments reported in FY 99**

Objective 2 14 presentations made to local planning commissions, governments, etc.

Goal 4-8 **Improve stormwater management in West Virginia - 2000 - 2005.**

Objective 1 Accomplishment reported in FY 99

Objective 2 Discussions of this issue occuring with watershed associations and groups.

Objective 3 Occurring in Berkeley and Putnam Counties, WV

Objective 4 Technical and financial assistance being provided to community of Inwood, Middleway Conservancy, Little Sandy watershed association, West Run Watershed, Tyler Mountain Community Association, Blue Creek Watershed Association, Tuscarora Watershed Association, Lower Paint Creek Association

Increase public involvement in construction NPS program - 2000 - 2005

Goal 4-10

Objective 1 A great deal of coordination has occurred in the last year to improve our NPS program delivery system through the Soil Conservation Districts

Objective 2 The public has been included in activities relating to the Watershed Management Framework priorities in particular and with our assistance to watershed associations

Objective 3 23 presentations made to approximately 1140 individuals

Objective 4 3 articles written for distribution through news letters, news papers, etc.

North Fork of the South Branch 319 Incremental Watershed Project

Summary of Activities

The North Fork 319 Incremental Project continues to address the water quality concerns of the North Fork of the South Branch Watershed. During the First half of 2001, the Incremental Project has continued to offer assistance to landowners within the North Fork Watershed. The second year of assistance to landowners within the watershed was directed to the forestry and agricultural production.

The agricultural portion of the North Fork 319 Watershed Project accepted applications for consideration during late spring into early summer. This sign-up period produced three interested landowners, with two of the landowners fitting the criteria for assistance. To date 14 agricultural contracts have been approved for 319 funding. The forestry aspect of the project has been successful in attaining one contract. The landowner is interested in correcting the erosion problems on the land due to past timbering activities.

On June 27, 2001 a Legislative and Interagency Tour of the North Fork Watershed was sponsored by the Potomac Valley Soil Conservation district, The Potomac Inter-Agency Water Quality Office, The West Virginia Soil conservation Agency, and USDA-NRCS. This day event offered the directors of the cooperating conservation agencies an opportunity to see the practices, which have been installed to improve the health of the watershed. The tour was comprised of over 30 individuals form state and federal agencies varying from WVDEP, Trout Unlimited, US Fish and Wildlife, and the WV Division of forestry, to name a few.

To date, the agriculture portion of the North Fork Project has reported the installation of 6 alternative feeding areas, 3 alternative watering sources and 389.7 acres are under nutrient management plans. The second year of contracts will emphasize on fencing livestock out of streams, and the installation of alternative watering facilities.

The natural stream restoration project is scheduled to begin in the later half of 2001 to early 2002. Trout Unlimited has spearheaded this initiative. Trout Unlimited has donated the design for the approximately ½ mile stretch of stream to be addressed.

The Division of Highways mortality composter is planned to be constructed in the Fall of 2001. The composter is to aid in the disposal of highway mortality. The Pendleton County Division of Highways employees attended a composting seminar organized by the staff of the Potomac Inter-Agency Water Quality Office.

The North Fork of the South Branch 319 Incremental Project will continue to provide assistance to the landowners of the North Fork Watershed. Through on going education, stream restoration projects, and assistance to landowners involved with forestry and agricultural activities, the North Fork Project continues to improve the quality and health of the watershed.

Practices Installed

Access Road	110	feet
Animal use area protection	7	
Critical area planting	2	acres
Fence	1865	feet
Nutrient management	389.7	acres
Use exclusion	1	acre
Water supply	5	
Filter Strips	0.8	acres

Practices Planned

Access Road	230	ft
Animal use area protection	12	
Critical area planting	2	ac
Fence	11790	feet
Filter strip	5.6	ac
Forest management	5000	ft of fence; 500 tree planting
Forage harvest management	16.1	ac
Nutrient management	389.7	ac
Riparian forest buffer	5	ac
Prescribed grazing	158	ac
Use exclusion	1	ac
Water supply	18	

Spring Creek 319 Incremental Watershed Project

Summary of Activities

The Spring Creek 319 Incremental Watershed Project has been very well received by the landowners within the watershed, which began in March of 2000. The participating parties have signed contract agreements to carry out the financial obligations. Portions of the funds have been received and have been deposited in a local bank.

As of August 31, 2001, the Little Kanawha Soil Conservation District has signed ten 319, two EQIP, two AMA, and seven SWCA cost share contracts for the Spring Creek Watershed.

1800 pesticide and well water testing program surveys were mailed to the citizens in the watershed, 50 of the surveys were filled out and mailed back. Pesticide, stream maintenance, and pollution prevention workshop was held on May 15, 2000, with 43 participants. Septic demonstration; WVDEP sampling three potential sites to determine where to install innovative septic technology. A well water-testing component of the project has been completed.

Four planning meetings were held in order to implement several components of the project. One field trip was held between WVSCA and the WVDOF to inspect the logging road restoration project. A preliminary field trip was held on February 22, 2001 to discuss the stream bank stabilization component of this project. Working with the GIS section to develop a GIS database of sites, practices and costs. All of the participating agencies and individuals who were able to bring this project to this point are very excited about the progress and are ready to see it to its fruition.

Practices Installed

Animal trails & walkways	4	
Animal use area protection	3	
Critical area planting	8.4	acres
Fence	1300	feet
Heavy use area protection	3	
Nutrient management	112	acres
Prescribed grazing	345.8	acres
Roof run-off	1	
Stream crossing	1	
Use exclusion	1	2800 acres
Waste storage facility	3	
Water supply	3	

Practices Planned

Animal trails & walkways	3
Animal use area protection	5
Critical area planting	9.1 acres
Fence	18063 feet
Filter strip	1.5 acres
Forest management	189.1 acres
Heavy use area protection	9
Nutrient management	347.5 acres
Pasture / hayland management	11.8 acres
Pest management	66.9 acres
Prescribed grazing	440.2 acres
Roof run-off	2
Stream crossing	4
Use exclusion	92 acres
Waste storage facility / management system	6
Water supply	27

NPS PROGRAM MANAGEMENT PLAN PROGRESS: WATERSHED RESOURCE CENTER

Goal 5 - 1: Provide support, education and information to WV's watershed based management efforts – 2000 –2005.

Objective 1 — The library has been refocused to provide a centralized location where individuals and watershed associations can obtain information about their watershed as well as general watershed information. Additions being made to the library include watershed hydrologic region status reports, watershed restoration action strategies, videos, periodicals and fact sheets. This information can be obtained at the Watershed Resource Center or online at www.wvwrc.org

Objective 2 — A user friendly website has been created – www.wvwrc.org

Objective 3 — Newly formed WV Watershed Associations addresses are updated as received and all watershed contacts for groups in WV can be found on our website at www.wvwrc.org

Objective 4 & 5 — WRC supported information transfer for the West Virginia Watershed Network by serving as president of the WVWN for the 2001 term. WRC made revisions to and distributed 55 TEAM manuals. Distributed information on watershed management resource Internet sites to members of the WVWN; developed Water Celebration Day Watershed resource booklets; coordinated registration for the Watershed Celebration day event. Submitted articles in both *Water Resources* and *Waternet* newsletters. Grant information was provided to Watershed associations, exhibited at watershed events and provided educational activities/opportunities to Watershed Associations.
8 Watershed Associations were provided assistance with Stream Partners Program.
7 Watershed Associations were provided assistance in developing local watershed plans.
2 Watershed Associations were provided SOS training.
11 Watersheds were provided technical assistance with Stormwater Management.
22 Watersheds were provided with technical assistance on Sediment and Erosion control planning / BMP installation.
14 Watersheds were provided technical assistance with Natural Stream restoration, habitat improvements, AMD, soil sampling, riparian, stream bank erosion, or flood work debris removal.

Objective 6 — WRC has developed a Watershed Resource website (www.wvwrc.org) that contains or has links to WV Watershed atlas.

Goal 5 - 2: Provide training and information transfer for watershed associations, agencies, and the general public on nonpoint source pollution, watershed management, and NPS best management practices – 2000 – 2005.

Objective 1 — Coordinated "*TEAM*" training in the Cabin Creek Watershed with 40 registrations but had to be cancelled due to flooding.

"Grassroots Approach to Watershed Management" representatives from 12 Watershed Associations, 20 volunteers and 6 presenters.

Objective 2 "*Agriculture Workshop*" in the 16 Mile Creek Watershed – 90 attendees
"*Sediment and Erosion Control Workshop"* in the Lower New River Watershed - 10 attendees

"Sediment and Erosion Control Stormwater Management Workshop" – 70 attendees

Conservation Partnership Conference – workshop topics included, *"Watershed Framework/Watershed Restoration Action Strategies"; "TMDL"; "Statewide Flood Plan"; "Natural Stream Restoration"* – 358 attendees.

24 individuals were trained in soil sampling, 26 individuals with pesticides,and 24 in PSNT. The following workshops were held: 18 agriculture workshops-538+ attendees; (6) construction-330+ attendees; (2) Erosion and Sediment Control-80 attendees; (1) forestry; (1) Biosolids workshops and technical Biosolids assistance was provided to 21 Wastewater Treatment plants. 15 Ag field days (i.e. grasslands, water quality, pesticides, pasture walks) with 1,331 participants.
Other trainings attended to increase understanding of NPS and BMP issues were provided through Nutrient Management Training, Floodplain Management Workshop, Natural Channel Design Workshop, TEAM training, Agricultural BMP Workshop, NRCS technical training, Level 1 Rosgen, Biosolids Training, GPS Training, Stormwater Management, Natural Stream Restoration Training, Nutrient Management Training, Grazing School, SOS Workshop. Training was also provided on natural stream channel designs.

Objective 3 *Spring Creek Watershed* - 3 pasture walks / Ag BMPs with 20 people in attendance.

Goal 5 - 3: Assist in the outreach and recognition for watershed activities - 2000 – 2005.

Objective 1 Display designed.

Objective 2 *Watershed Resources* published and distributed each quarter.

Objective 3 100 attendees representing 26 Watershed associations and 10 agencies were in attendance at Water Celebration Day 2000. The WRC played a vital role in the success of the celebration day by developing the registration brochure. Pre-registration and nametags for the watershed associations, government agencies and all other attendees was handled through the resource center. The resource center also coordinated the displays and provided educational activities with the *Enviroscape*® and *Who Polluted* game. WRC developed watershed resource booklet for all the attendees that contained contact information for each watershed, categorized the award process and featured each nominee.

Objective 4 The WV Conservation Partnership Watershed Award was designed to recognize watershed groups in West Virginia that promote community involvement in partnerships to address natural resource concerns; and educate themselves and others on watershed issues. Criteria for the award include Soil Conservation District role, partnerships, the watershed groups mission or purpose, creation and implementation of an annual plan of work, long range goals, accomplishments, education / outreach activities, number of active members, and trainings / educational activities attended to improve their understanding of resource issues. Trap Hill Watershed Association, located in the Southern Soil Conservation District, Friends of the Cacapon River, located in the Eastern Panhandle Soil Conservation District, and Kelly's Creek Communities Association, located in the Capitol Soil Conservation District were recognized at the Annual WV Conservation Partnership Conference. These watershed groups received first, second and third place respectively. Other nominations included (in alphabetical order):Cedarville Community Association, West Fork Soil Conservation District
Friends of the Cheat, Monongahela Soil Conservation District
Hundred Area PRIDE, Upper Ohio Soil Conservation District
North Fork Watershed Association, Potomac Valley Soil Conservation District
Upper Knapps Creek, Greenbrier Valley Soil Conservation District
Upper Tygart Valley Partnership, Tygart Valley Soil Conservation District

Goal 5-4: Promote an understanding of nonpoint source issues, conservation education, watershed management, and NPS best management practices

Objective 1 Exhibited at activites, conferences and events 23 times

Objective 2 Information received at WRC was transferred through *Watershed Resources* newsletter (distributed quarterly), *WV Envirothon News & Review* newsletter. The TEAM Watershed monitoring manual was revised, published and distributed and made available on line at www.wvwrc.org Workshop announcements, public meeting and watershed meeting announcements were mailed as well as e-mail statewide and announced on websites. Library materials continue to be distributed. Meeting minutes for the WV Conservation Education Council and Envirothon are published and distributed. 51 educational materials (fact sheets, technical information packets, brochures and videos) developed and 30 articles written and published (10 watershed, 17 agriculture and 3 construction)

Objective 3 Completed

Objective 4 Information placed on the website as received.

Objective 5 *Watershed Resources* published and distributed quarterly.

Objective 6 Displayed at the Contractors EXPO (6000+ attendees) information was provided to attendees upon request. Made contact with and provided information to 250+ attendees.

Objective 7 Statewide distributions of criteria for the WV Contractor and Developer of the Year Award program, received nominations from Soil Conservation Districts and NPS field staff. Arranged nominated sites itinerary, contacted and coordinated the judging team, accumulated nominees information packets for judges, scheduled logistics for the judging tour.

Objective 8 Published and distributed *Envirothon News and Review* newsletter statewide. Support for the WV Envirothon was provided through mailings, media contacts, compilation and distribution of meeting minutes, meeting notifications and assisted with the presentation of informational workshops. WRC provided WV high schools, 4-H clubs and the general public with informational packets, and presentations of the WV Envirothon video. Compiled and forwarded resource study materials, copies of Envirothon Rules and Regulations, team guidelines, parental consent forms, and team and advisor lodging registration forms to all registered teams. Assisted with coordinating training for team advisors, setup Envirothon volunteer work schedule, and processed team participation certificates. Redesigned Envirothon display and publicized at conferences and public events. Served as committee member for the Fund Raising Committee, assisted with grant preparation and distribution of solicitation letters to future donors. 2001 WV Envirothon was the largest in the history of the WV Envirothon with 43 schools across the state participating.

Objective 9 WRC is assisting in the fund raising for the 2004 Canon National Envirothon to be hosted by West Virginia.

Objective 10 Attended WV Conservation Education Council (CEC) quarterly meetings. Recorded, submitted and distributed CEC minutes; distributed Samara brochure and test booklets statewide, displayed CEC display at various conferences including the Governor's Conference. Educational outreach activities included 31 presentations to schools and other public groups (i.e. Enviroscape, conservation education days) involving to 3,095 individuals. Six (6) educational presentations were made to 330+ contractors, and 14 governmental groups. 18 education activities were held for the public on NPS and agriculture for 528+ participants.

Objective 11 WRC played an intricate role in the 2001 West Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Partnership Conference. The conference had an attendance of 358+. The conference featured a series of educational and constructive workshops; “Watershed Framework/Watershed Restoration Action Strategies”; “TMDL”; “Statewide Flood Plan”; “Natural Stream Restoration”.

ANNUAL REPORT
NPS SILVICULTURE
2001

The West Virginia Division of Forestry is the lead management agency for implementation of the silviculture nonpoint source pollution programs. The Division's Water Quality Program addresses training and education, cooperative efforts with associated governmental agencies and monitoring of timber harvesting through licensing, certification, job notification and posting.

To ensure compliance with the Logging Sediment Control Act and to monitor use of silvicultural best management practices by the logging community, the Division continues to investigate all complaints received, within three days, and perform random compliance inspections of active logging operations and track the number and location of all logging operations through the notification process. Running consistently with previous years, the Division will receive more than 600 complaints of logging operations. Division foresters will have randomly checked more than 2,000 active logging operations for 2001. As in past years, 74 percent of the operations were found to be in compliance with the Logging Sediment Control Act. However, when operators are found to be in violation of the law, orders are issued detailing the corrective actions necessary to bring the operation back into compliance. For the year, more than 130 corrective actions were taken immediately by the operator while 520 compliance orders were issued. Compliance order s allow the operator to continue to harvest timber while environmental problems are corrected within a specified amount of time not to exceed 10 days. For the more serious violations or lack of following compliance orders, suspension orders are issued which terminates the logging operation activity until all violations are corrected. Nearly 400 of these orders were issued in 2001 by Division foresters. The Division has visited over 2,700 logging operations in 2001, and there were more than 3,000 operations registered with the Division of Forestry. This high number of site visits will continue to ensure that logging operations will be performed in an environmentally safe manner that will protect water quality in West Virginia.

The Division also conducted workshops for the logger certification program which is part of the Logging Sediment Control Act. Each logging operation conducted in West Virginia must be supervised by a certified logger. To become certified, a logger must be trained and successfully pass courses in the safe conduct of timbering operations, first aid procedures and the use of silvicultural best management practices. Sixty-six workshops were held across the state training over 1,200 loggers as to the best management

practices for controlling soil erosion and water siltation from logging operations. This training is valid for three years at which point the logger must enroll in an eight-hour update training.

In cooperation with the West Virginia Forestry Association the Division assisted and/or conducted four landowner workshops. Forest management planning, water quality, tax issues and selling timber were the main topics discussed. Approximately 160 people attended the spring and fall workshops. A continued effort to educate and train the nonindustrial private landowner about nonpoint source pollution, importance of water quality and how their role is essential in furthering the growth of the silvicultural nonpoint source program.

Continuing a past initiative of training wood industry foresters on harvest planning and silvicultural best management practices, one class was held with attendance of 58 foresters. This continued effort will allow all involved in the harvest process to be on the same page as to the proper techniques to protect water quality while removing forest products.

As mandated by the Logging Sediment Control Act of 1992, the NPS Coordinator has brought together the Best Management Review Committee. This committee is charged with reviewing the current set of BMP's and recommending any changes to the State Forester. This process is conducted every three years and the committee is represented by two loggers, a person conducting research in BMP's, one person conducting research in silviculture, a person from the DEP-Office of Water Resources and a representative of an environmentally active organization. The committee met four times between late 2000 and early 2001. Recommendations were provided to the State Forester and 10,000 updated BMP manuals were printed in June 2001. These manuals are distributed at the Divisions training sessions.

Due to flood events of 2001, considerable time has been spent on two newly created committees as the Divisions represented. The first committee or task force is charged with evaluating the affects, if any, mining and timbering had on the flood events. The second committee consists of several partners assisting the Army Corp of Engineers and the Soil Conservation Agency in developing a statewide flood protection plan. Both documents should be available by July 2002.

Although not completed, initial planning with West Virginia University's Division of Forestry to conduct an evaluation on use and effectiveness of BMP's on logging operations has begun. This will be similar to the study that was conducted in 1996.

The NPS Coordinator continues to participate in West Virginia's Stream Partners Program. Stream Partners provide seed grants to community-based watershed groups to assist in the organization and

completion of watershed improvement projects that will restore, protect or enhance their stream or watershed. As a partner, the NPS Coordinator provides technical assistance and assists in selecting and prioritizing improvement projects in conjunction with the Stream Partner Coordinator.

Under separate funding, the Division has implemented the Upper Elk Watershed project. This project is a forest resource stewardship program that will institutionalize the forest resource management and conservation aspect of the watershed. To coordinate this project the Division has employed a forester that will provide technical assistance, education, monitoring and workshops for landowners in the Upper Elk watershed.

It is the feeling of this grant recipient that all project goals and accomplishments have been satisfactorily performed to meet the mandates of the agreement by and between the West Virginia Division of Forestry and the Office of Water Resources.

NPS PROGRAM MANAGEMENT PLAN PROGRESS: SILVICULTURE

Goal 6 – 1: Administer the Logging Sediment Control Act, which will reduce the impacts or potential impacts to water quality.

- 520 Compliance orders issued
- 130 Corrective actions taken
- 400 Suspension orders issued
- 2700 Operations visited
- BMP Committee met

Goal 6 – 2: Educate industry and consulting foresters along with private non-industrial landowners on the use and advantages of best management practices.

- Held 66 training workshops for 1200 loggers
- Held one workshop for wood products industry, 58 attended

Goal 6 – 3: Reduce the occurrence and size of fires and protect the forestland from insect and disease problems by developing a strong prevention program in each county.

- 250 fire prevention programs conducted
- Staff displays at over 40 events

Goal 6 – 5: Monitor and protect forest health

- Coordinating with West Virginia University on a study of BMP effectiveness
- Collected data at 34 permanent Forest Health Monitoring program plots

Goal 6 – 6: Encourage forest management on all forestland, which will ensure a productive forest and enhance water quality.

- Conducted four workshops with 160 non-industrial landowners

Goal 6 –7: Conduct multiple-use management on public lands.

- State Forest display at WV's state fair
- 4 workshops dealing with forest management and multiple use
- updating management plans on eight state forests
- conducting surveys for endangered and threatened species

Goal 6 – 8: Promote and service the West Virginia Tree Farm Program, which requires a management plan for involvement.

- Inspect 120 Tree Farms to ensure compliance with Tree Farm Standards and Guidelines

Goal 6 – 9: Increase communities involved with the Urban Forestry Program.

- Assisted 3 communities with development of Urban Forestry programs
- Conduct 6 Urban Forestry workshops

Goal 6 – 10: Support the Stewardship Incentive Program (SIP) and Forest Incentive Program (FIP) and promote increased landowner involvement.

- 150 Stewardship plans developed covering 100,000 acres
- 6 training sessions for Natural Resource Planners

Goal 6 – 11: Cooperatively manage watersheds as a whole with other players and achieve common goals with sound forestry management practices.

- Updated the BMP Manual, printed 10,000 copies and distributed copies at all workshops
- Participated in the Stream Partners Program, WV Watershed Network and the State Flood Protection Plan Task Force.
- Trained and educated 1418 loggers and non-industrial landowners.